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Note verbale dated 1 October 1999 from the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union addressed to the Secretary-General

The Liaison Office to the United Nations of the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to transmit herewith the following statements which have already been issued as documents of the Security Council:

1. Statement on the Democratic Republic of the Congo issued by the Presidency of the Council of the European Union (annex I);

2. Statement on East and West Timor issued by the Presidency of the Council of the European Union (annex II).

The European Union would be grateful if these statements, together with the accompanying letters of the President of the Council of the European Union in New York, could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 116 (c).

(*Signed*) F. M. **Moys**

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Annex I

[Original: French]

Letter dated 1 October 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement on the Democratic Republic of the Congo issued on 22 September 1999 by the Presidency of the Council of the European Union (see appendix).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its appendix circulated as a document of the General Assembly.

(*Signed*) Marjatta **Rasi**
Permanent Representative of Finland
to the United Nations

Appendix

[Original: English and French]

Statement on the Democratic Republic of the Congo issued on 22 September 1999 by the Presidency of the Council of the European Union*

In its statement of 3 September 1999 (A/54/331-S/1999/959, annex), the European Union acknowledged the completion of the signing of the Lusaka Agreement (S/1999/815, annex) and expressed its readiness to support the implementation of the Agreement, provided that all the parties themselves implemented it in accordance with its terms.

However, the European Union remains deeply concerned about the delays in the implementation of the Agreement by the parties, and the continued military activities and hostile propaganda. The essential requirements for the implementation of the Agreement have not been fulfilled: for instance, the selection of the representatives for the Joint Military Commission has not been completed and the facilitator for the national dialogue has not been agreed upon by all the parties.

The European Union therefore strongly urges all parties to fully abide by the contents and timetable of the Agreement, which is the negotiated instrument for a peaceful solution of the conflict. The European Union also encourages the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity to make all necessary efforts to support the implementation of the Agreement.

The European Union continues to be willing to support various components in the implementation of the Agreement, such as the peacekeeping operations by the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity, the Joint Military Commission, the national dialogue, the reintegration of refugees and displaced people in their countries of origin and the process of democratization, rehabilitation and reconstruction in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus and Malta, and the countries of the European Free Trade Association members of the European Economic Area align themselves with the present statement.

* Previously circulated as document S/1999/1005, annex.

Annex II

[Original: French]

Letter dated 1 October 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement on East and West Timor issued on 21 September 1999 by the Presidency of the Council of the European Union (see appendix).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its appendix circulated as a document of the General Assembly.

(*Signed*) Marjatta **Rasi**
Permanent Representative of Finland
to the United Nations

Appendix

[Original: English and French]

Statement on East and West Timor issued on 21 September 1999 by the Presidency of the Council of the European Union*

The European Union welcomes the progress in the deployment of the international force in East Timor. It shows the willingness of the international community to find a peaceful and lasting solution to the question of East Timor based on the self-determination of the people of East Timor. Fear is giving way for hope in East Timor.

We commend and continue to support the work of the Secretary-General and the United Nations Mission in East Timor in pursuing the consultation process towards the independence of East Timor.

The European Union praises the contribution of those States Members of the United Nations that have provided troops and material support to the international force. The participation of regional States is especially important for the success of the operation. We wish to pay tribute to those Asian and, in particular, Association of Southeast Asian Nations States that have contributed to the establishment of the international force. It clearly shows their interest in the maintenance of peace and security in the region.

In this context, we commend the cooperation of the Indonesian Government with the international force. Complete and early withdrawal of the Indonesian armed forces from East Timor as well as rapid containment and disarmament of any paramilitary elements in the territory is crucial for the operation to achieve its immediate objectives, namely, to protect the civilian population and allow an immediate and full-scale beginning of humanitarian assistance.

The European Union remains gravely concerned over the humanitarian situation in East Timor and, particularly, in West Timor. The European Union repeats its earlier appeals for allowing immediate safe access for international humanitarian organizations to both East and West Timor. Refugees in West Timor must be free to decide themselves whether they want to return to East Timor. Indonesian authorities remain responsible for their safety and humanitarian needs. The international community stands ready to help the Indonesian authorities.

The European Union supports calls for the establishing of an international commission of inquiry to investigate cases in which international humanitarian law has allegedly been violated. Impunity for atrocities cannot be tolerated.

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* Previously circulated as document S/1999/1004, annex.